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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 444
By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend REJ & Associates
Lobbying Firm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their professional efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the team at REJ & Associates exemplify of such professional excellence; and

WHEREAS, REJ & Associates is spear headed by none other than the Honorable Rufus E. Jones, former member of the 92nd-99th Tennessee General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones has served astutely as Chairman of the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators, Chairman of the Tennessee Martin Luther King Holiday Commission, Chairman of the House State and Local Government Committee, and served on the Finance, Ways and Means, Transportation, and Commerce Committees while a state legislator; and

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WHEREAS, completing the team at REJ & Associates are: Gladys A. Jones, Barbara J. Partee, and Wilhelmina Davis; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jones is responsible for marketing, information systems development, and strategic planning at the firm; her background is in developing and documenting information systems; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Partee brings over 30 years of experience to REJ & Associates, with a background in curriculum/instruction and 21st century technology; she serves with the utmost efficiency as chief financial officer; and

WHEREAS, Wilhelmina Davis is a registered lobbyist who is responsible for tracking legislation, preparing legislative agendas, monitoring committee meetings, negotiation, and consensus development; her background is in Political Action Committee Management, fundraising, and consulting on legislative ethics, rules, and policies; prior to joining REJ & Associates, she worked as a pharmacy technician, bank administrator, and electronic journal clerk in the Tennessee House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, based in Memphis, the firm opened a new office in downtown Nashville on January 26th, 1999, to better facilitate the needs of their many clients; and

WHEREAS, the areas of service addressed at the firm include Consulting and Government Relations, Telecommunications, International Development, Banking, Government Contracts, Managed Care, Utilities, Insurance, Municipal Interests, Real Estate, Healthcare Retail Management, Economic Development, Environment, Non-Profit Organizations, Information Systems and Technology, K-12 and Higher Education, Travel, and Tourism; and

WHEREAS, the mottoes of the well-respected lobbying firm are:

"It is better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one, than to have an opportunity, and not be prepared," Whitney Young, and

"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."
Confucius; and

WHEREAS, Rufus Jones is a celebrated and revered member of the Memphis African American community, as exemplified by his status as a role model for the current members of the Tennessee Black Caucus, especially its members from Memphis; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate in its deliberations to applaud its own when they ascend to greater heights after their tenures in public office; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Rufus E. Jones and his team at REJ & Associates, for exemplary service to the state of Tennessee and extend to them our very best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.